

Transportation Advisory Committee

March 8, 2017, 7:15 pm to 9:30 pm, Town Hall 2nd floor conf. room

Present: Bill Copithorne, Seth Federspiel, Mike Gordon, Melissa Laube, Marjorie

Moore, Howard Muise, Victor Rivas, Scott Smith, Laura Wiener

Missing members: Jeff Maxtutis, Corey Rateau, Wayne Chouinard

Non-Members Present: Ted Wilson and Deanne Benson, Schools for Children; Kathryn Sievers, Katherine Einstein, Sutherland Road.

Administration. Minutes of 2/8/17 approved unanimously. Other handouts were reviewed.

Lesley Ellis School on Winter Street. Ted Wilson and Deanne Benson of Schools for Children attended the meeting to discuss the Lesley Ellis School move to Winter Street. The Working Group reviewed their report and recommendations. Scott noted that Winter Street is narrow, with parking on one side. Recommendations include consider modifying parking restrictions on Winter and Oxford Streets, Town should restripe parking lot at Crosby Field, enhance pedestrian safety at Oxford and Raleigh Streets, monitor traffic and parking after school opens in September. Ted Wilson thanked the Committee for its assistance.

Paul Revere Road. Kathryn Sievers and Katherine Einstein attended the meeting to discuss concerns about Paul Revere Road between Mass. Ave. and Park Ave. Cars drive fast and visibility coming from Sutherland Road is poor. Committee agreed to look into it.

Appleton/Paul Revere. Howard then reported on observations at Park Ave. and Appleton Street. Between 3:00 and 5:45, there was one instance of traffic backing up past Appleton St., blocking the intersection. Mike reported there were four instances between 5:45 and 6PM. Corey has said that a signal may be warranted there. Bump-outs at Appleton may also be helpful for pedestrians because of the width of Park Ave.

Town Issues.

- Bill reported that a video has been prepared that will explain the hybrid pedestrian signal at Mass. Ave. and Swan Place which should become operational this spring. Signal mast arms in Arlington Center will be installed in late March. The rest of the project improvements will be finished in May. On Mass. Ave. Phase 1, MassDOT has asked the contractor to deal with a few issues—6-8 bus stops don't meet ADA requirements, puddling at Orvis Road.
- Howard reported that Mike Gordon was approved by the Selectmen to become a full member of TAC. Howard is setting up interviews with prospective associate members.

Local Speed Limits Change. Jeff presented TAC recommendations to Selectmen, which were then adopted. New speed limits will become effective on May 1. Bill and Wayne looked at locations for signs around town, identified by Jeff. Next step is for TAC to develop recommendations about Speed Safety Zones.

MBTA Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Laura reported that the MBTA has asked communities for comments on their CIP, due March 17. Victor reviewed the list and identified projects with the most impact in Arlington. Town priorities should include keeping Red Line in state of good repair, modernization and improvements to bus stops and bus routes, and extending the Green Line to Route 16. Laura will draft a letter and send to TAC for comments before the weekend, finalize the letter on Monday, March 13 for Town Manager's signature.

Pedestrian Access at Bus Stops. List is finished. Scott suggested categorizing the list by type of improvement, and then by number of boardings, and then make recommendations for prioritization and funding.

School Issues. Ottoson, Brackett and Lesley Ellis School Zone signs are still needed. The town-wide Safe Routes to School Group is no longer meeting.

Parking on Mill Street. Signage is now in place.

Highland at High Haith. Crosswalk paint and bollards have been installed.

Bike Share. Working Group met with Jenny Raitt, Planning Director, and will soon meet with Jenny, Town Manager Adam Chapdelaine and Motivate, which runs the Hubway program. Working Group is fleshing out funding and program design needs. Awaiting Vision 2020 survey results on interest in bike share.

Adjourned at 9:30PM.

- Meeting Materials:
 - Meeting Packet for March: Agenda 3/8/17; Minutes of 2/8/17; Individual Action List 3/8/17; Project List 3/8/17.
 - Memo to TAC from Lesley Ellis School Working Group, re. Anticipated Traffic and Parking Changes with the Relocation of Lesley Ellis School, dated March 8, 2017
 - Potential Locations for 25 MPH Signs
 - Bus Route Inventories
 - MBTA CIP list
 - Letter from Scott Lever to TAC, dated February 24, 2017
 - Email from Howard Muise to Katheryn Sievers re: Sutherland and Paul Revere safety concerns for pedestrians, dated 2/23/17